



Level Up Principles

Level Up is a collaborative of local, state, and national partners committed to measurably increasing the number of high school students prepared for and successfully transitioning to postsecondary education and training programs.

More than 60% of jobs, and nearly all newly created jobs, will require a postsecondary credential by the end of the decade. Earning a postsecondary credential—a certificate with labor market value or an associate or bachelor’s degree—opens doors to jobs that can support a family. All students deserve that future.

Today, too few youth—especially students of color, those from low-income families, and those whose parents did not attend college—have that

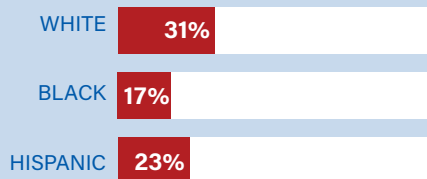
opportunity. That must change. We must increase our expectations and supports to close this gap.

As K-12 and higher education leaders and advocates, we stand together to level up our alignment efforts to accelerate student transitions. Postsecondary readiness and success must be a priority for every student, educator, and policymaker to ensure that the transition between high school and postsecondary education is a launch pad, not a hurdle.

Closing the Opportunity Gap for Students

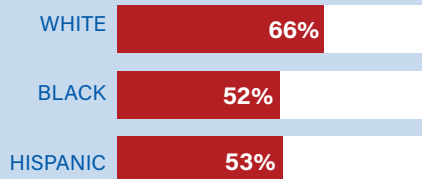
Participate in Advanced Placement or Dual Enrollment

Percentage of all students



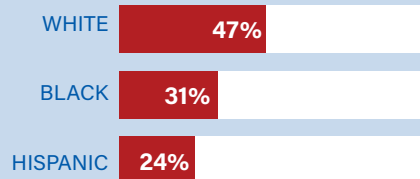
Move to Postsecondary Coursework without Remediation

Percentage of all students

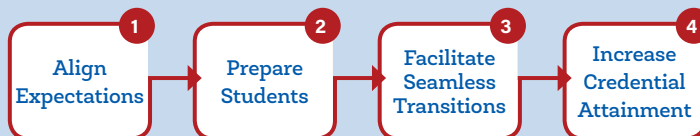


Have a Postsecondary Credential of Value

Percentage of adults ages 25–64



Level Up is bringing together the leaders and policymakers who can make this goal a reality and is supporting them to:



Sources: Community College Research Center, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Census Bureau

WE BELIEVE THAT ...

- ▶ Educational attainment should not end with a high school diploma.
- ▶ Every state and community needs to prioritize postsecondary preparation and transitions.
- ▶ Postsecondary preparation and attainment today are inequitable and will require shifts in policy and practice to close equity and opportunity gaps.
- ▶ Closing postsecondary preparation and attainment gaps is the shared responsibility of K-12 and higher education; working alone is insufficient.
- ▶ State, system, institutional, and local leaders have a critical leadership role to play in elevating this issue and prioritizing actions to increase postsecondary preparation and success.

WE ARE COMMITTED TO ...

- ▶ Making the vision of successful postsecondary transitions a reality for every student in the nation.
- ▶ Increasing the number of states and communities that prioritize postsecondary transitions through intentional policies, structures, and incentives.
- ▶ Promoting postsecondary preparation and success broadly, while targeting approaches to serve students with the greatest need.
- ▶ Encouraging and supporting state and local policymakers and practitioners as they develop, implement, and sustain their efforts.

WE ASPIRE TO ...

Significantly increase the number of students—especially students of color, low-income students, and first-generation college students—who:

- ▶ Get a jumpstart on postsecondary coursework while in high school.
- ▶ Build early credit momentum toward a degree or credential.
- ▶ Attain a postsecondary credential of value.

JOIN US!

Visit levelupcoalition.org to find out more.